

# THE WASP.—EXTRA.

NAUVOO, ILLINOIS, WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1842.

## BENNETTIANA;

OR,  
THE MICROSCOPE WITH DOUBLE  
DIAMOND LENSES.

*The baser the coward the bigger the bluster.*

We have read Doctor Bennett's great sine qua non: Russian ukase: and dictatorial egotism. Desperate cases, require desperate doses and so we will give a little of Bennett as he was, and Bennett as he is.

BENNETT AS HE WAS.

J. C. Bennett is the author of the communications signed 'Joab General in Israel.' Wonder if he was in duress when he made the following?

From the Times and Seasons, September, 1840.

Burglary! TREASON!! ARSON!!!  
MURDER!!!!

Lt. Col. Smith:—

I feel disposed to address you a few lines in relation to one of the darkest events that ever blackened the history of man in his most savage and barbarous state. The history of the Goths and Vandals, the cruel arabs, or the savage Indians, does not contain a parallel—the heart sickens at the thought, and turns from the contemplation of it with loathing and disgust. In the year of our Lord 1833, it is generally known, (for it came heralded from the Grampian hills of the Saints of light, was written by a celestial messenger on the altar of God and reflected on the heavenly canopy that all the world might see,) L. W. Boggs, Governor of Missouri, and Prince of midnight assassins and cowardly brigands, issued, in the face of high heaven, exterminating order (which was ratified by the Legislature,) against the Mormon people residing within his jurisdiction—directing his general officers, first to drive them from the State; second to 'intercept their retreat;' and third to exterminate them with the weapons of war; but the Mormons threw their banners on the air, and under the proudest motto that ever blazed upon a warrior's shield—'Sicut patribus sit Deus nobis; As God was with our fathers, so may he be with us.' \* \* \*

Missouri wages war on the entire Mormon church—the church of Latter Day Saints—violates their women; shoots down, and scalps, their innocent, defenceless, children; confiscates their property, and throws it to the four winds of heaven—brings them from affluence to beggary in an hour; and orders them all exterminated, murdered, butchered, by an infuriated, savage, fiendish, diabolical, internal, Missouri mob of ruthless brigands, or driven from the State—and declares them outlaws from the common family of man. \* \* \*

All this in a land of boasted liberty—and simply because the Mormons wish, and are determined, to exercise one of our greatest and most dear and sacred constitutional rights—the liberty of conscience—the inestimable privilege of worshipping the God of heaven in the way that they believe to be pointed out! Should they be given up into the hands of wicked men and devils in order to enable them to celebrate a kind of Auto-de-fe, by burning them to the stake, or butchering them in the shambles, at Jefferson city, to satiate Missouri's inordinate thirst for blood? No. They will not be given up. Missouri has too long bathed her hands in crimson gore, and drank the blood of the innocent; she must now be checked in her wild and mad career—she has passed from the balmy state of her political glory to the sear and yellow leaf—the civilized world now turns from her with horror and ineffable contempt—and, should it become necessary, (which may God avert,) she must be met—Missouri must be met, not only by the Mormon people, but by the States—and all the friends of liberty and equal rights should gird on their armour, and swear by the everlasting God that the sword shall not depart from the thigh, nor the buckler from the arm until the contest is ended. \* \* \*

Missouri has hewn down the innocent and defenceless, it is true, but she is entirely destitute of military knowledge or prowess. The Poet truly describes her citizens when he says—'Their pow'r to hurt, each little creature feels, Bulls aim their horns, and asses lift their heels;' but the blood of the slain is crying from the ground for condign vengeance, and should she continue to pursue her present murderous policy, the day of righteous retribution and the avenging of blood will not be procrastinated—for her plains shall be bleached with the bones of the slain, and her rivers flow with blood, before another massacre will be suffered. More anon.

Yours, Respectfully,

JOAB,  
General in Israel.

BENNETT AS HE IS.

From the St. Louis Bulletin.

On the evening of the 29th ultimo, twelve of the Danites, dressed in female apparel, approached my boarding house, (Gen. Robinson's,) in Nauvoo, with their carriage wheels wrapped with blankets, and their horses' feet covered with

cloths, to prevent noise, about 10 o'clock, for the purpose of conveying me off and assassinating me, and thus prevent disclosures—but I was so admirably prepared with arms, as were also my friends, that after prowling around the house for some time, they retired.

On Friday, the 1st inst., I went to Carthage; and on the 5th I had a call from Mr. O. P. Rockwell, the result of which is detailed in the following affidavits, to-wit:

STATE OF ILLINOIS, } ss.  
HANCOCK COUNTY. }

Personally appeared before me, Samuel Marshall, a Justice of the Peace in and for said county, John C. Bennett, who being duly sworn according to law depose and saith, that on the 5th of July, 1842, at the house of Mr. Hamilton, in Carthage, Mr. O. P. Rockwell came to him and desired a private interview, to which deponent replied that if he (Rockwell) had any thing to say, he could speak it out before the gentlemen present. Rockwell said it was a private matter which interested them only—deponent then went out with him. Rockwell said "Doctor you do not know your friends,—I am not your enemy—and I do not wish you to make use of my name in your publications;" deponent replied that he recognised Joe Smith and all his friends, as his personal enemies: to which Rockwell replied "I have been informed by Warner and Davis that you said Smith gave me fifty dollars and a wagon for shooting Boggs and I can and will whip any man that will tell such a cursed lie—did you say so or not?" After looking at him for a moment or two deponent said, "I never said so, sir, but I did say, and I now say it to your face, that you left Nauvoo about two months before the attempted assassination of ex-Governor Boggs, of Missouri, and returned the day before the report of his assassination reached there; and that two persons, in Nauvoo, told me that you told them that you had been over the upper part of Missouri, and in Boggs' neighborhood," to which Rockwell replied, "well, I was there; and if I shot Boggs they have got to prove it—I never done an act in my life that I was ashamed of, and I do not fear to go any where that I have ever been, for I have done nothing criminal."

Deponent replied "certainly they have, got to prove it on you, if you did shoot him: I know nothing of what you did, as I was not there, I only know the circumstances, and from them I draw my own inferences, and the public will theirs—and now, sir, if either you, or Joe Smith, think you can intimidate me by your threats, you are mistaken in your man, and I wish you to understand distinctly that I am opposed to Joe and his holy host—I shall tell the truth fearlessly, and regardless of consequences." Rockwell replied, "If you say that Joe Smith gave me fifty dollars and a wagon to shoot Boggs, I can whip you, and will do it, in any crowd." Deponent then said—"why are you harping on what I have not said, I have told you what I have said to your face and in the presence of these gentlemen, and you have acknowledged the truth of all I have said, and I shall say it again, and if you wish to fight I am ready for you." The conversation then ceased on that subject. Rockwell told deponent that he had been accused wrongfully of wishing to assassinate him, or of being ordered by Smith to do so; but deponent said, "I believe that Joe ordered you to do it—I know that orders went from him to the Danites for that purpose." Rockwell said that Smith had never given him any such orders, neither was it his intention; and further this deponent saith not.

JOHN C. BENNETT.

Sworn to, and subscribed, this 7th day of July, 1842, before me, at my office in Carthage.

SAMUEL MARSHALL, J. P.

[SEAL]

BENNETT AS HE WAS.

How a man can talk with the 'lively of heaven on to serve the devil in.' Hear him again.

From the Times and Seasons, Oct. 1840.

'Fudge! We repeat, Smith and Rigdon should not be given up. The law requiring the Governor of our State to deliver up fugitives from justice, is a salutary and wise one, and should not in ordinary circumstances be disregarded, but as there are occasions that authorize the citizens of a State to resent a tyrannical and oppressive government, so there are occasions when it is not only the privilege, but the duty of the Governor of the State to refuse to surrender the citizens of his State upon the requisition of the Executive of another,—and this we consider as the case of Smith and Rigdon.'—Quincy Whig.

The foregoing article, from the pen of the editor of the Quincy Whig, reflects great credit on the head and heart of the writer. The sentiments it contains are liberal, noble, just—the offspring of wisdom and understanding. It completely uses up the *Uncircumcised Philistines of Missouri*, and places the Mormon people just where they have ever taken shelter—under the broad folds of the Constitution—and I, therefore, commend it to the favorable consideration of all the saints of light. The grievances of this people must be redressed, and my hands shall help to do it—should they have to reach to the highest courts of heaven, dig to the lowest bowels of hell, or encompass the broad expanse of the universe of God, to consummate so desirable a result.

JOAB,  
General in Israel.

From the Times and Seasons, June 1, 1841.

Our worthy Governor is certainly disposed to do us ample justice in every respect, and to extend to us every facility for our future happiness and prosperity. Illinois has certainly done her duty, and her whole duty; and now it comes us to show ourselves upright, honest, just—worthy of the favors bestowed by noble, generous, and magnanimous statesmen.

BENNETT AS HE IS.

Extract from the Sangamo.

'If Governor Reynolds, of Missouri, will make another demand for Joe Smith alone, disconnected with any other person,—(for there are thousands of innocent, unoffending, good and holy people among the Mormons, who never ought to suffer, and never shall by my hands, or through my instrumentality—men, women and children who have suffered more than death for the infamous prophet)—and if Governor Carlin will place the writ in my hands, I will deliver him up to justice, or die in the attempt, unless restrained by the constituted civil authority.—Thousands and tens of thousands are ready to obey the call, and enforce the laws, and the holy Joe shall tremble at the sight of gathering hosts. Let the watchword pass with the celerity of lightning, and let the citizen soldier be ready.—I will lead you on to victory, and lay the rebels low. The Constitution and the laws shall triumph; and misrule, violence, and oppression wither like a blighted flower. Let not the Executive whom he has vilified and abused, as he has Governor Carlin, both in the private circle and public congregation, fear or neglect to do his duty in this case, and deliver up this noted refugee, charged with the blackest crimes known to the laws, who now boldly stalks abroad in our public ways. If Joe is innocent, let him be acquitted; but if he is guilty, let his life atone for it. I regard him as a foul and polluted murderer, and on the forthcoming of the State writ, Joe shall be delivered up.'

Gov. Carlin must have had a great desire to please the Doctor, eh?

It is true I had Joe Smith appointed, or elected Lieutenant General, as a mere plaything, knowing that there was no such officer contemplated by the Constitution; but, it answers Joe well enough, as he does not know enough of military matters to tell the difference between a Corporal and a General,—so, Lieutenant General is as good as any other *ral* to Joe.

'Now Governor, do your duty,' says the imperious doctor—which amounts to, as much as to say, Governor, you have never done your duty, but do it now, and I will forgive you, for your power is little nipperkins of milk, compared to my great aquafortis Jars! An Irishman would tell the story thus: Tommy, bring me the butcher knife and hammer, our puppy has got his head into the big stone pot, and I can't get it out without cutting it off and breaking the pot.

From the following it would seem that Bennett has acted as the herald of holiness:

'Well, sister Pratt,' says Joe, 'as you have refused me, it becomes sin, unless sacrifice is offered;' and turning to me he said, 'General, if you are my friend I wish you to procure a lamb, and have it slain, and sprinkle the door posts and the gate with its blood, and take the kidneys and the entrails and offer them upon an altar of twelve stones that have not been touched with a hammer, as a burnt offering, and it will save me and my priesthood. Will you do it?' I will, I replied. So I procured the lamb from Capt. John T. Barnett, and it was slain by

Lieut. Stephen H. Goddard, and I offered the kidneys and entrails in sacrifice for Joe as he desired.'

Never, since Cain, with his peck of potatoes, operated against Abel's Lamb, has flesh and blood, with a sacerdotal Tunic on, officiated with such dignified pomposity as the great Mayor of Nauvoo; Major General of the Nauvoo Legion; Master-in-Chancery; Doctor of Medicine; and Elder in Israel, even John C. Bennett. *Auctor pum sine impunitatis!* This is the first clue we have that Bennett is a devotee—guess, however, he acted as one of the priests of Baal. Bennett says in the Sangamo:

'Now, remember that if I should be missing, Joe Smith, either by himself or his Danite Band, will be the murderer. Illinoisians, then let my blood be avenged!'

To save beating up for volunteers, as the General may have another turn of mind, and slope or Texas, would it not be better to have the Doctor stereotyped, ensured, or even embalmed, if it can be done without duress, and not injure him, or jeopardise his future usefulness: under Gynecocracy; and embryo infanticide. Doctor, murder will out.

Speaking of Jo Smith, in his insanity, or fogmatically, in his Bennettiana, he says,

'I now defy him, and all his holy hosts. I dare him to personal violence. There are eyes that see that he knows not of, and ears to hear that he understands not.'

This reminds us of the time when the Doctor undertook to poison himself to death, but some good Samaritan like Mormons saved his life; though a wag or two fixed a pile of sand, and monument and fingered on it the following epitaph,

'In memory of Major General John C. Bennett, who died at the siege of Philter, in the defence of the cause of Venus, July 27, 1841.

A Psalm of Joab, when Jacob stole his tombstone and his harp:

'O Jacob Morris mercy have,  
Now I am dead and in my grave:  
While on the earth you slandered me;  
Now I am dead pray let me be.  
If you this tomb stone ever steal,  
With me the flames of hell you'll feel;  
Bring back my other and my harp:  
Cease to increase my misery sharp.'

Bennett says:  
'Joe's extensive land frands in Iowa and Illinois, will soon come to light. I will save his Eastern creditors some hundreds of thousands of dollars, by exposing these frauds in the face of open day.'

This is noble; if the Doctor will save enough to pay what he forgot to pay when he acted as bishop of the Campbellite church, and also that he may be wise enough to hold to a sufficient quantity of the needful to save himself the trouble of filling up spurious Diplomas—whereby he quackifies himself as the chief of quackery, he certainly will do some good.

Now Dr. Bennett has tried to terrify some with his affidavit that Rockwell assassinated Gov. Boggs—insinuating that he went to fulfill prophecies—But we think the Doctor has now taken the burden upon himself—and that too, to fulfill his own prophecies.

BENNETT AS HE WAS.

From the Times and Seasons, Feb. 1, 1842.

I stood on Mount Zion, by the Temple of the Great King, and looked down through the vista of time, and saw people like great waters, for they were many—gathered from all nations under the whole heavens: and I saw mighty chieftains upon noble steeds, and armies of chariots and horsemen, and strong cohorts of footmen, great and terrible, with spears and banners, and the implements of war, forming to the sound of the clarion. And a great shout was heard in the camp of the saints, and a voice, like the sound of a mighty trumpet, saying—Go and possess your inheritances, and avenge the wrongs of your progenitors—and the battle was set in array, and the armies of the saints moved forward, attended by by thunder and hail, and fire and storm, conquering and to conquer. And the armies of the aliens tremble at the voice, like Belshazzar at the hand writing on the wall—and the hearts of their great warriors, and valiant men, fainted within them, and they fled like grasshoppers, and were consumed like stubble before the devouring flame. The plains were bleached with the bones of the slain, and the rivers flowed with blood. The fence

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HISTORICAL  
Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latter-day Saints

anger of the Lord returned not until he had done, nor until he had performed the intents of his heart.]

JOAB,  
General in Israel.

Doctor Bennett's abolition principles, were quite warm, as the Times and Seasons of March 15, 1842, will show by reading the correspondence between himself and Charles V. Dyer, M. D., of Chicago.

From the Times and Seasons, March 15, 1842.

"Let the friends of freedom arise and utter their voice, like the voice of ten thousand thunders—let them take every constitutional means to procure a redress of grievances—let there be a concerted effort, and the victory is ours. Let the broad banners of freedom be unfurled, and soon the prison doors will be opened, the captive set at liberty, and the oppressed go free. Missouri will then remember the unoffending Mormons in the days of their captivity and bondage—when murder and rapine were her darling attributes—why, my heart is filled with indignation, and my blood boils within me, when I contemplate the vast injustice and cruelty which Missouri has meted out to that great philanthropist and devout Christian, General Joseph Smith, and his honest and faithful adherents—the Latter Day Saints, or Mormons?"

"Now let us make a strong, concerted, and vigorous effort, for UNIVERSAL LIBERTY, to every soul of man—civil, religious, and political. With high considerations of respect, and esteem, suffer me to subscribe myself—

Yours, Respectfully,  
JOHN C. BENNETT.  
CHARLES V. DYER, M. D."

It will be seen by this that Gen. Smith was a great philanthropist as long as Bennett could practice adultery, fornication, and—we were going to say, (*Buggery*.) without being exposed. But if the Missourians are willing to harbor an abolitionist as a spy, and let him practice the real amalgamation among the *negresses* of their State,—huzza for the Doctor; there by hangs a tale!

But we must hold up, for truly we have never witnessed so mortal a case of *black vomit*: If Missouri; if Illinois; if the world can swallow such gall and wormwood, from the mouth of Dr. Bennett, and not feel qualmish while gaging it down, then verily the *Physician can heal himself*.

Such egotism; who made Nauvoo? who granted the Charter? who made the Nauvoo Legion? who made Smith Lieutenant General, for a play thing? who commanded Gov. Carlin to approve all these mighty acts?



John C. Bennett, with "all my laurels thick upon me." But alas! the third day came a chilling frost and nipt them, and of all my great titles, honors and consequence, although I veto the practice of being tried by court martial save such an one as I shall dictate, I have found that greatness has its inconveniences, and there is nothing left but me!

To conclude, if the doctor does not find the way of the transgressor hard, then honor has fled, but tell it not in Missouri, publish it not in Ohio, lest the uncircumsised Philistines should strew his ashes to the four winds, that there may not be left a trace of so vile a wretch.

At a meeting of the citizens of the city of Nauvoo held in said city at the meeting ground, July 22d 1842.

Orson Spencer Esq. was called to the chair and Gustavus Hills was appointed clerk.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman who stated the object of the meeting to be to obtain an expression of the public mind in

reference to the reports gone abroad, calumniating the character of Pres. Joseph Smith. Gen. Wilson Law then rose and presented the following resolution.

*Resolved*—That, having heard that John C. Bennett was circulating many base falsehoods respecting a number of the citizens of Nauvoo, and especially against our worthy and respected Mayor, Joseph Smith, we do hereby manifest to the world that so far as we are acquainted with Joseph Smith we know him to be a good, moral, virtuous, peaceable and patriotic man, and a firm supporter of law, justice and equal rights; that he at all times upholds and keeps inviolate the constitution of this State and of the United States.

A vote was then called and the resolution adopted by a large concourse of citizens, numbering somewhere about a thousand men. Two or three, voted in the negative.

Elder Orson Pratt then rose and spoke at some length in explanation of his negative vote. Pres. Joseph Smith spoke in reply—

Question to Elder Pratt, "Have you personally a knowledge of any immoral act in me toward the female sex, or in any other way?" Answer, by Elder O. Pratt, "Personally, toward the female sex, I have not."

Elder O. Pratt responded at some length. Elder B. Young then spoke in reply, and was followed by Elders Wm. Law H. C. Kimball and Pres. H. Smith. Several others spoke bearing testimony of the iniquity of those who had calumniated Pres. J. Smith's character.

Meeting adjourned for one hour.

P. M. Meeting assembled pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the chairman.

A petition was then received from a committee appointed by the city council for the reception, approbation, and signatures of the citizens generally, petitioning the Governor of Illinois for protection in our peaceable rights, which was read approved, and signed by, 800 persons. ORSON SPENCER ESQ., Chairman. GUSTAVUS HILLS, Clerk.

*Note.* In the Wasp of Saturday last, a mistake occurred in the minutes of the public meeting held in this city, in inadvertently omitting some qualifying words in the question of Pres. Joseph Smith to Elder O. Pratt, and in his reply. The omission was without design and the proper corrections are made in the Extra.

GUSTAVUS HILLS, Clerk.

## MORE DISCLOSURES.

It is not with a view to excite the passions and prejudices of the people, that the following affidavits, are made public, but to disabuse the community, which can not be less than fomented at the perusal of Dr. Bennett's letters and affidavits which have recently shot forth like meteors. Our space is too small to publish the documents referred to, but as there are no lack of presses and men, to give the Doctor a fair hearing, as well as extensive circulation, we shall presume that every body knows his story about the Mormons at Nauvoo, and proceed to rebut, refute, disprove, or expose, as the nature of the case may require.

The Doctor claims among all his *et ceteras* a little law, but had he reflected once on *lex scripta*, where he has ten times to gratify his lustful desires, he would exclaim like the old barrister, "John might swallow a cartload of such stuff without obtaining one particle of truth." His affidavits are mere wind for effect. Mr. Bennett knows better than to make such foolish quips. In fact, until the whole City Council of Nauvoo are impeached, the Doctor must stand before the public as a perjured man.—There let him stand.

Two things are certainly requisite in witnesses,—knowledge and character: By this rule, as the Doctor fails himself, we think some of his testimony, when properly cross examined will appear a little more than plumb. Who is Mrs. Shindle? A harlot. What next? References to others, whose knowledge of facts and weight of character, will find a brief—*ex necessitate rei*.

The doctor's *duress*, so gravely sworn to, is the climax of his legal sagacity. There is a point at issue in that, which, when the Doctor wakes from his lethargy, will look like a vexed question, with iron eyes, which may refresh his mind with the consolation that sudden and violent moves in public, often bring leisure, repentance in solitude.

As it regards his third letter, concerning fraud, time alone will determine that. Common law, common sense, and common pru-

dence, teach us to try men for crimes that they have committed, not for what they may commit.

What he says of the proceedings of the Lodge is nothing; he is an expelled mason. Mr. Rigdon's name goes with his certificate, and settles the matter on that point, and with his daughter. Elder Marks' name is to the city council's affidavit; and we might add many other things to show the vanity of the man and the enormity of his crimes, but we forbear, though a word or two more may not be amiss. As to the Danite band, which seems like Hamlet's ghost to haunt the Doctor by night and by day, it must be something more than Mormon, for the City Council testifies that they know of no such band. And in justice to the community we ought to say, and strangers who are among us daily bear the same evidence, that, nothing of any such league, combination or knot of men, is known in Nauvoo.

The certificates of Elders Rigdon, Marks, and Higbee, and Miss Michael, (the Journal's Mitchell) go to show that Doctor Bennett used the names of persons without their consent. These certificates speak for themselves, and leave the doctor before the public as he is, a debaucher, a spoiler of character and virtue, and a living pestilence, walking in darkness to fester in his own infamy.

There is one affidavit out, that Bennett might easily be put out of the way; and in justice to the community, and the aggravation of the crimes which he has committed, (and to substantiate which, the testimony of respectable persons has been properly authenticated, but which is actually too indelicate for publicity,) we say, and every man who has a wife, or a daughter, or a sister, that he wishes uncontaminated with vice of the slyest but most atrocious men, will say, *we will never rest till the law is executed on such a bloody tifted Vampire*.

### AFFIDAVIT OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

We the undersigned, members of the city council of the City of Nauvoo, testify that John C. Bennett was not under duress at the time that he testified before the city council May 19th 1842 concerning Joseph Smith's innocence, virtue, and pure teaching—his statements that he has lately made concerning this matter are false,—there was no excitement at the time, nor was he in anywise threatened or intimidated, his appearance at the city council was voluntary, he asked the privilege of speaking, which was granted, after speaking for some time on the city affairs, Joseph Smith asked him if he knew anything bad concerning his public or private character, he then delivered those statements contained in the testimony voluntarily, and of his own free will, and went of his own accord as free as any member of the council.

We do further testify that there is no such thing as a Danite Society in this city nor any combination, other than the Masonic Lodge, of which we have any knowledge.

WILSON LAW, GEO. A. SMITH,  
JOHN TAYLOR, GEO. W. HARRIS,  
W. WOODRUFF, N. K. WHITNEY,  
VINSON KNIGHT, BRIGHAM YOUNG,  
H. C. KIMBALL, CHARLES C. RICH,  
JOHN P. GREEN, ORSON SPENCER,  
WILLIAM MARKS,

Subscribed, and sworn to, by the persons whose names appear to the foregoing affidavit, this 20th day of July, A. D. 1842; except N. K. Whitney, who subscribed and affirmed to the foregoing this day, before me

DANIEL H. WELLS,

Justice of the Peace, within and for Hancock County, Illinois.

Daniel H. Wells Esq., is an old resident in this place, and is not a Mormon.

### AFFIDAVIT OF HYRUM SMITH.

On the seventeenth day of May, 1842, having been made acquainted with some of the conduct of John C. Bennett, which was given in testimony under oath before Alderman G. W. Harris, by several females, who testified that John C. Bennett endeavored to seduce them and accomplished his designs by saying it was right; that it was one of the mysteries of God, which was to be revealed when the people was strong enough in the faith to bear such mysteries—that it was perfectly right to have illicit intercourse with females, providing no one knew it but themselves, vehemently trying them from day to day, to yield to his passions, bringing witnesses of his own clan to testify that their was such revelations and such commandments, and that it was of God; also stating that he

would be responsible for their sins, if their was any; and that he would give them medicine to produce abortions, providing they should become pregnant. One of these witnesses, a married woman that he attended upon in his professional capacity, whilst she was sick, stated that he made proposals to her of a similar nature; he told her that he wished her husband was dead, and that if he was dead he would marry her and clear out out with her; he also begged her permission to give him medicine to that effect; he did try to give him medicine, but he would not take it—on interrogating her what she thought of such teaching, she replied, she was sick at the time, and had to be lifted in and out of her bed like a child. Many other acts as criminal were reported to me at the time. On becoming acquainted with these facts, I was determined to prosecute him, and bring him to justice.—Some person knowing my determination, having informed him of it, he sent to me Wm. Law and Brigham Young, to request an interview with me and to see if their could not be a reconciliation made. I told them I thought there could not be, his crimes were so heinous; but told them I was willing to see him; he immediately came to see me; he begged on me to forgive him, this once, and not prosecute him and expose him, he said he was guilty, and did acknowledge the crimes that were alleged against him; he seemed to be sorry that he had committed such acts, and wept much, and desired that it might not be made public, for it would ruin him forever; he wished me to wait; but I was determined to bring him to justice, and declined listening to his entreaties; he then wished me to wait until he could have an interview with the masonic fraternity; he also wanted an interview with Br. Joseph; he wished to know of me, if I would forgive him, and desist from my intentions, if he could obtain their forgiveness; and requested the privilege of an interview immediately. I granted him that privilege as I was acting as master *pro tem*. at that time; he also wished an interview first with Br. Joseph; at that time Brother Joseph was crossing the yard from the house to the store, he immediately came to the store and met Dr. Bennett on the way; he reached out his hand to Br. Joseph and said, will you forgive me, weeping at the time; he said Br. Joseph, I am guilty, I acknowledge it, and I beg of you not to expose me, for it will ruin me; Joseph replied, Doctor! why are you using my name to carry on your helish wickedness? Have I ever taught you that fornication and adultery was right, or polygamy or any such practices? He said you never did. Did I ever teach you any thing that was not virtuous—that was iniquitous, either in public or private? He said you never did. Did you ever know anything unvirtuous or unrighteous in my conduct or actions at any time, either in public or in private? he said, I did not; are you willing to make oath to this before an Alderman of the city? he said I am willing to do so. Joseph said Dr. go into my office, and write what you can in conscience subscribe your name to, and I will be satisfied—I will, he said, and went into the office, and I went with him and he requested pen ink and paper of Mr. Clayton, who was acting clerk in that office, and was also secretary *pro tem*. for the Nauvoo Lodge U. D. Wm. Clayton gave him paper, pen and ink, and he stood at the desk and wrote the following article which was published in the 11th No. of the Wasp; sworn to and subscribed before Daniel H. Wells, Alderman, 17th day of May, A. D. 1842; he called in Br. Joseph, and read it to him and asked him if that would do, he said it would, he then swore to it as before mentioned; the article was as follows:

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }

City of Nauvoo. } Personally appeared before me, Daniel H. Wells, an Alderman of said city of Nauvoo, John C. Bennett, who being duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith: that he never was taught any thing in the least contrary to the strictest principles

of the Gospel, or of virtue, or of the laws of God, or man, under any occasion either directly or indirectly, in word or deed, by Joseph Smith; and that he never knew the said Smith to countenance any improper conduct whatever, either in public or private; and that he never did teach to me in private that an illegal illicit intercourse with females was, under any circumstances, justifiable, and that I never knew him so to teach others.

JOHN C. BENNETT.

Sworn to, and subscribed, before me, this 17th day of May, 1842.

DANIEL H. WELLS,

Alderman.

During all this intercourse, I was present with him, and there was no threats used, nor harshness, every thing was as pacific as could be under existing circumstances. I then immediately convened the masonic lodge, it being about four o'clock P. M. he then came into the lodge and charges of a similar nature were preferred against him. He admitted they were true, in the presence of about sixty in number. He arose and begged the privilege of speaking to the brethren; he acknowledged his wickedness; and begged for the brethren to forgive still longer, and he called God and angels to witness that he never would be guilty of the like crimes again—he would lay his hand on the Bible and swear that he would not be guilty of such crimes. He seemed to be very penitent and wept much; his penitence excited sympathy in the minds of the brethren, and they withdrew the charge for the time being, until he could be heard on other charges which had been preferred against him by members of the Pickaway Lodge, of Ohio, through the communications of the Grand Master, A. Jonas. After this we found him to be an expelled mason, in consequence of his rascally conduct from the Pickaway Lodge, in Ohio; the circumstances and documents were mentioned in the 11th No. of the Wasp, signed by George Miller, Master of Nauvoo Lodge, under dispensation, and reads as follows:

#### NOTICE.

To all whom it may concern, GREETING.—

Whereas John Cook Bennett, in the organization of the Nauvoo Lodge, under dispensation, palmed himself upon the fraternity as a regular Mason, in good standing; and satisfactory testimony having been produced before said Lodge, that he, said Bennett, was an expelled Mason, we therefore publish to all the Masonic world, the above facts, that he, the said Bennett, may not impose himself upon the fraternity of Masons.

All Editors who are friendly to the fraternity of free and accepted ancient York Masons will please insert the above.

GEORGE MILLER.

Master of Nauvoo Lodge,

Under Dispensation.

Still after all this we found him guilty of similar crimes again, and it was found to our satisfaction that he was conspiring against the peace and safety of the citizens of this state—after learning these facts we exposed him to the public; he then immediately left the place abruptly; threatening to drink the hearts blood of many citizens of this place. Previous to this last disclosure, the hand of fellowship was withdrawn from him, May 11th, 1842, by the first presidency, six days previous to the time he pretended to withdraw from the church, which you will see published in the Times and Seasons, June 15th, 1842, I was also present at the time when he gave this testimony before the City Council, as printed in the Times and Seasons, July 1st, 1842, on page 841 which reads as follows:

Dr. John C. Bennett, ex-Mayor, was then called upon by the Mayor to state if he knew aught against him; when Mr. Bennett replied: "I know what I am about, and the heads of the church know what they are about I expect. I have no difficulty with the heads of the church. I publicly avow that any one who has said that I have stated that General Joseph Smith has given me

authority to hold illicit intercourse with women is a liar in the face of God; those who have said it are damned liars; they are infernal liars. He never, either in public or private, gave me any such authority or license, and any person who states it is a scoundrel and a liar. I have heard it said that I should become a second Avar by withdrawing from the church, and that I was at variance with the heads and should use an influence against them because I resigned the office of Mayor; this is false. I have no difficulty with the heads of the church, and I intend to continue with you, and hope the time may come when I may be restored to full confidence, and fellowship, and my former standing in the church; and that my conduct may be such as to warrant my restoration—and should the time ever come that I may have an opportunity to test my faith it will then be known whether I am a traitor or a true man."

Joseph Smith then asked: "Will you please state definitely whether you know any thing against my character either in public or private?"

Gen. Bennett answered: "I do not; in all my intercourse with Gen. Smith, in public and in private, he has been strictly virtuous."

*Aldermen.* WILSON LAW,  
N. K. WHITNEY, JOHN TAYLOR,  
HIRAM KIMBALL, BRIGHAM YOUNG,  
ORSON SPENCER, JOHN P. GREEN,  
GUST. HILLS, H. C. KIMBALL,  
G. W. HARRIS, W. WOODRUFF,  
*Councillors.* GEO. A. SMITH.  
WILLARD RICHARDS  
JAMES SLOAN Recorder.

May 19th 1842.

I know he was not under duress at the time for his testimony was given free and voluntarily, after requesting the privilege of the council to speak (which was granted him,) on matters pertaining to the city ordinances, while speaking, or before he took his seat, he was requested by the Mayor of the city, Joseph Smith, to state to the council if he knew aught against him; and he replied according to the above.

I also know that he had no private intercourse with Joseph in the preparation room on the 17th day, as he stated in his letter or printed in the Sangamo Journal, for the lodge was convened on that day, and I had the keys of the doors in my possession from 7 o'clock A. M. until 6 o'clock P. M. and it was when the lodge called off for refreshment during recess, that I had the interview with him, at which time he wrote the affidavit and subscribed it in my presence, and I was with him during the whole time from his first coming to me, until he signed it and until the lodge convened again at 4 o'clock.

HYRUM SMITH.

Sworn to, and subscribed, before me July 23, 1842.

GEO. W. HARRIS,

Alderman of the city of Nauvoo.

#### AFFIDAVIT OF WM. LAW.

As John C. Bennett has become our open enemy, and is engaged in circulating falsehoods of the blackest character, I deem it duty to make the following statement of facts:

John C. Bennett states in the Sangamo Journal that the withdrawal of the hand of fellowship by the First Presidency, and the Twelve, was after he had withdrawn from the church. I presume the notice of our withdrawal was not published till after he withdrew, but that does not prove his statement true, for I hereby testify that I signed the article in question several days before he withdrew. I believe it was on the evening of the 11th day of May, some four or five days afterwards I had some conversation with J. C. Bennett and intimated to him that such a thing was concluded upon, which intimation I presume led him to withdraw immediately. I told him we could not bear with his conduct any longer—that there were many witnesses against him, and that they stated that he gave Joseph Smith as authority for his illicit intercourse with females. J. C. Bennett declared to me before God that Joseph Smith had never taught him such doctrines, and that he never told any one that he (Joseph Smith) had taught any such

things, and that any one who said so told base lies; nevertheless, he said he had done wrong, that he would not deny, but he would deny that he had used Joseph Smith's name to accomplish his designs on any one; stating that he had no need of that, for that he could succeed without telling them that Joseph approbated such conduct.

These statements he made to me of his own free will, in a private conversation which we had on the subject; there was no compulsion or threats used on my part; we had always been on good terms, and I regretted exceedingly that he had taken such a course. He plead with me to intercede for him, assuring me that he would turn from his iniquity, and never would be guilty of such crimes again.—He said that if he were exposed it would break his mother's heart—that she was old, and if such things reached her ears it would bring her down with sorrow to the grave. I accordingly went to Joseph Smith and plead with him to spare Bennett from public exposure, on account of his mother. On many occasions I heard him acknowledge his guilt, and beg not to be destroyed in the eyes of the public, and that he would never act so again, "So help him God." From such promises, and oaths, I was induced to bear with him longer than I should have done.

On one occasion I heard him state before the city Council that Joseph Smith had never taught him any unrighteous principles, of any kind, and that if any one says that he ever said that Joseph taught such things they are base liars, or words to that effect. This statement he made voluntarily; he came into the council room about an hour after the council opened, and made the statement, not under duress, but of his own free will, as many witnesses can testify.

On a former occasion he came to me and told me that a friend of his was about to be tried by the High Council, for the crime of adultery, and that he feared his name would be brought into question.—He entreated me to go to the council and prevent his name from being brought forward, as, said he, "I am not on trial, and I do not want my mother to hear of these things, for she is a good woman."

I would further state that I do know from the amount of evidence which stands against J. C. Bennett, and from his own acknowledgements, that he is a most corrupt, base, and vile man; and that he has published many base falsehoods since we withdrew the hand of fellowship from him.

About the time that John C. Bennett was brought before the Masonic Lodge he came to me and desired that I would go in company with B. Young, to Hyrum Smith, and entreat of him to spare him—that he wished not to be exposed—that he wanted to live as a private citizen, and would cease from all his folly, &c. I advised him to go to Texas, and when he returned, if he would behave well we would reinstate him. He said he had no means to take him to Texas, and still insisted on B. Young and myself to intercede for him.

WM. LAW.

Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the Peace, within and for the county of Hancock, State of Illinois, July 20th 1842.

DANIEL H. WELLS.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }  
COUNTY OF HANCOCK. } I hereby certify that on the 17th day of May last John C. Bennett subscribed and swore to the affidavit over my signature of that date, and published in the Wasp, after writing the same in my presence, in the office where I was employed in taking depositions of witnesses. The door of the room was open and free for all or any person to pass or repress. After signing and being qualified to the affidavit aforesaid, he requested to speak with me at the door; I followed him out—he told me some persons had been lying about him and showed me a writing granting him the privilege to withdraw from the church, and remarked that the matter was perfectly understood between him and the heads of the church; and that he had resigned the Mayor's office and should resign the office he held in the Legion, but as there was a court martial to be held in a few days Joseph Smith desired that he would wait until that was over.

I was in the City Council on the 19th day of May last—I there heard him say what has been published concerning the teachings of Joseph Smith, and of his own course. I afterwards met him in company with Col. Francis M. Higbee, he then stated that he was going to be the candidate, (meaning candidate for the Legislature)

and Joseph and Hyrum Smith were going in for him: said "you know it will be better for me not to be bothered with Mayor's office, Legion, Mormon, or any thing else." During all this time if he was under duress, or fear, he must have had a good faculty for concealing it, for he was at liberty to go and come when and where he pleased, so far as I am capable of judging. I know that I saw him in different parts of the city, even after he had made these statements, transacting business as usual, and said he was going to complete some business pertaining to the Mayor's office; and I think did attend to work on the streets.

I was always personally friendly with him, after I became acquainted with him. I never heard him say any thing derogatory to the character of Joseph Smith, until after he had been exposed by said Smith, on the public stand in Nauvoo.

DANIEL H. WELLS.

July 22, A. D. 1842.  
Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the Peace, in and for the City of Nauvoo, in said county, this 22d day of July, 1842.

GUSTAVUS HILLS, (L. S.)

J. P. & Alderman.

The whole of these affidavits are given by gentlemen of the first respectability of unquestionable character and of known reputation and veracity, and can of course be relied upon; and what light do they represent Bennett in, but that of a perjured wretch, a useless vagabond and a mean, vacillating, unprincipled villain and a disgrace to human society, and if their testimonies and the testimony of the City Council cannot be relied upon, then indeed are we in a poor case;—corrupt, fallen, and dishonored.—But John C. Bennett is not the man to prove us so; we must have different testimony to his, and that of his partners in crime, to convict us of evil.

As John C. Bennett and the Sangamo Journal have called upon several persons, in this city, to come out and make disclosures, relative to the things about which they have been writing; they have responded to the call, and publish the following

#### CERTIFICATES.

MR. EDITOR—

Sir, From a perusal of the St. Louis papers, I find from an article signed J. C. Bennett, stating that all who are friends to Mr. Joseph Smith he considers his enemies. As a matter of course then, I must be one, for I am and have been for a long time the personal friend of Joseph Smith; and I will here say that I have never yet seen or known any thing against him that I should change my mind; It is true many reports have been and are put in circulation by his enemies for political or religious effect, that upon investigation are like the dew before the morning sun, vanish away, because there is no real substance in them.

Could Dr. Bennett expect any man acquainted with all the circumstances, and matters of fact which were developed both here and from abroad, respecting his conduct and character, previous to his leaving this place, for one moment to believe him—I answer NO! he could not. And all his affidavits, that came from any person entitled to credit, (I say entitled to credit, because some there are who are not entitled to credit, as Dr. Bennett very well knows) are in amount nothing at all, when summed up, and render no person worthy of death or bonds.

F. M. Higbee's knowledge concerning the murder of a prisoner in Missouri, I am authorized to say, by F. M. Higbee that he knows of no such thing—that no prisoner was ever killed in Missouri, to the best of his knowledge. And I also bear the same testimony, that there never was any prisoner killed there, neither were we ever charged with any such thing, according to the best of my recollection.

ELIAS HIGBEE.

July 22, 1842.

This is to certify that I do not know of the murder of any prisoner in Missouri, as above alluded to. F. M. HIGBEE.

July, 22, 1842.

As there seems to be some foolish notions that I have been engaged with J. C. Bennett, in the difficulties between him and some of the citizens of this place, I merely say in reply to such idle and vain reports that they are without foundation in truth.

SIDNEY RIGDON.

Nauvoo, July 25, 1842.

Inasmuch as J. C. Bennett has referred the people to me for testimony against Pres. Joseph Smith, I take this opportunity to state before the public that I know nothing derogatory to his character, either as a christian, or a moral man.

Mr. Bennett made use of my name without my knowledge or consent.

PAMELA M. MICHAEL.

Inasmuch as John C. Bennett has called upon me through the Sangamo Journal to come out and confirm the statements which he has made concerning Joseph Smith and others, I take this opportunity of saying to the public, that I know many of his statements to be false, and that I

believe them all to be the offspring of a base and corrupt heart, and without the least shadow of truth, and further that he has used my name without my permission. I believe him to be a vile and wicked adulterous man, who pays no regard to the principles of truth or righteousness, and is unworthy the confidence of a just community. I would further state that I know of no Order in the Church which admits of a plurality of wives, and do not believe that Joseph Smith ever taught such a doctrine, and further, that my faith in the doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and in Joseph Smith, is unshaken.

WILLIAM MARKS.

Nauvoo, July 26, 1842.

Mr. Bennett seems to place very much confidence in the veracity integrity and honor of the above individuals, we hope that he will now believe their testimony.

#### THE SANGAMO JOURNAL.

There is so much self importance in some men, that you cannot make them hear or understand, unless you hail them with 'a Speaking Trumpet. They seem destitute of the idea that any body but themselves, are entitled to a portion of the globe. The Sangamo Journal says that Mormons ought to be disfranchised, and their charters taken from them. By cutting out and detaching sentences, [disorganising ideas, and disjoining paragraphs, and putting his own construction and] interpretations upon them patrician Editor makes quite a 'flourish of trumpets.' As he seems to possess such entire confidence in Doctor Bennett's statements, though the Doctor has been proven guilty of perjury, we feel in duty bound to lay before the public a few extracts from his (Bennett's,) pen, for the consideration of the public.

We take it for granted that every one knows the Journal's statement, and proceed with the extracts as follows:

"The foregoing article shows so little regard for truth, and the reasoning is so palpably fallacious, that I consider it useless to multiply many words on this subject, but, as the object and political designs of the writer are so apparent, rent, and the times so portentous, I cannot refrain from a duty which I owe both to myself, and the public.

1st. The 'NAUVOO LEGION.' This military body possesses, in the County of Hancock, the same corporate powers as appertain to the 'INVISIBLE DRAGONS OF THE 2ND DIVISION OF ILLINOIS MILITIA,' in the counties of White, Edwards and Wabash, and no others whatever. I wrote, and procured, the charters for both corporations—they are both alike. Why does not Mr. Francis attack the Dragons as well as the Legion? Simply because it would afford him no political capital. They are the two best military bodies in the State, and are dissimilar only in point of numbers. Both charters are perpetual and in both corporations the COURT MARTIAL, composed of the commissioned officers, constitutes the 'law-making power' so much dreaded by Mr. Francis. The 'LOUISVILLE LEGION,' the 'LOUISIANA LEGION,' and the 'ALBANY BURGESS' CORPSE,' are the same kind of corporations, and are in Kentucky, Louisiana, and New York, what the INVISIBLE DRAGONS, and the 'NAUVOO LEGION,' are to Illinois; and nothing more. They are all effective military forces, incorporated for the purpose of more perfect discipline; and who that loves his country would object to that? None. No, not one! But the Court Martial, the law-making power, of the Nauvoo Legion is, to Mr. Francis, like the Upas tree of death—he is instantly seized with Hydrophobia, and the spirit of the demoniac shows itself in every paragraph. Who ever heard of a corporation without a law making power? No one on earth, and none ever contemplated such an anomaly—it would be like a body devoid of the principle of vivification, inoperative and useless.

The 'CITY OF NAUVOO.' This charter I likewise wrote, and procured, without any 'CORRUPT BARGAIN,' or 'NEFARIOUS PLOT AND LEAGUE,' as charged by Mr. Francis—neither did Joe Smith, the Mormon Prophet, as he calls him, ever see, or converse with, the leaders of either party on this subject, prior to the granting of the charters now under consideration: and I am bold to say that this city possesses no unusual or extraordinary powers—certainly none which are not possessed in common by Chicago, Springfield, Quincy, or any other city. Have not all cities the use of a county or city jail? Certainly they have and Mr. Francis knows it as well as any other man—for if he is so ignorant as that he certainly deserves expiation. Neither is the Mayor the 'final judge,' as Mr. Francis says, for any person may appeal from the decision of the Mayor or any Alderman to the Municipal Court, and from the Municipal to the Circuit Court of Hancock County, and from the Circuit to the Supreme Court of the State of Illinois. So all is safe yet Mr. Francis. If the City Council of Nauvoo have passed any illegal ordinances, let the party aggrieved apply to the judiciary for redress, and have the ordinances set aside—there would be no difficulty in such a case whatever. Come Mr. Francis, if you are a law abiding man, redress the grievances by due course of law, and there will be no barrier interposed. But this I presume, would not answer your party purposes in the coming election. I repeat it again—NAUVOO POSSESSES NO UNUSUAL POWERS WHATEVER, and I defy the proof to the contrary.

The 'CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS,' or Mormons. This body is in-

corporated under the general act, and not by special grant, and possesses no power or privilege but what is common to all other churches in Illinois.

The 'UNIVERSITY OF THE CITY OF NAUVOO.' This corporation is vested with such plenary powers as appertain to any other college or university in Illinois, and such only. Read Mr. Francis, and 'Let him that readeth, understand.

GENERAL JOSEPH SMITH. As to the election of this gentleman, I alone am responsible. If there is any moral turpitude attached to it, let it be placed upon my head. I organized the military forces of this city, and the circumjacent country, like a ROMAN LEGION—a Legion with Cohorts—and Joseph Smith was duly elected Lieutenant General, which every military man knows is a reviewing, and not a commanding officer. George Washington, as Major General, was a fighting and commanding officer; but as Lieutenant General, he was the chief reviewing officer: so of all others. The peculiar organization of the Nauvoo Legion required that General Smith should be placed in his present situation as the one most appropriate. In relation to his commission there was no option with the Executive—he was bound to issue on the authenticated return of the election: and if General Smith commands all the armies of the United States by rank, (according to Mr. Francis,) so mote it be; the Legion will then take the right of the forces, and Illinois will form No. 1, of the General Grand Encampment.

The 4th section of an act for the organization and government of the Militia of this state, approved March 2d, 1833, and now in force, reads as follows—

'Sec. 4. That there shall be one Adjutant General, Quarter Master General, and Pay Master General, to be appointed by the Commander in-Chief, to rank respectively as Colonels of Cavalry, etc. etc. So it will be seen that there was not even the 'show' of incompatibility between my two commissions. I would advise Mr. Francis to study military law before he again speaks of the incompatibility of a staff office, with an office in the line. Any military man giving such an opinion should be cashiered for incompetency.

As Quarter Master General of the State of Illinois, I issued orders to the Warden of the Penitentiary, who had the custody of the public arms, directing as equitable a distribution as possible, both of those furnished on my designation and requisition, and that of General Pearce, my predecessor; neither did I at any time order an undue proportion to the Nauvoo Legion, but positively refused to supply the full draft for which they had given bonds to the Executive, on the grounds that other parts of the state had older claims. These claims I ordered to be supplied in order of date, having at the same time a due regard to the limited supply for the General Government. Illinois should have drawn for about eighty thousand troops, (which would have supplied all the demands of the State,) whereas, from official neglect, she has drawn for only about thirty thousand. Let this be regulated by the appropriate departments, military and semi-military, and there will be no lack of public arms—no complaining that a small draft had swallowed them up—and no feeling on this subject. There is an abundant supply of arms for the State if the proper legal steps are taken to procure them; and the public weal requires that every independent company in the State should be furnished with its full quota; and this I hope that Col. Cooley, the successor of Col. Bassett, will consummate.

As a general officer of the line, I have always been a strict disciplinarian, and I always shall be, knowing as I do that no military force can be made respectable or available, either in peace or war, without strict discipline, and due subordination. If it is necessary that a military organization should be kept up at all, it should be effective, well drilled, and always ready for the public service. Such, by indefatigable exertions, is the Nauvoo Legion, the division of my special command as Major General. Illinois should be proud of such a corps: they would do honor in the tented field, and bear upon the warrior's shield—victory, liberty and LAW.

SIDNEY H. LITTLE, Esq. This gentleman was not elected by, or in any way dependent on the Mormons. He was a Senator before the Mormons located in Hancock County, and utterly declined a re-election. It is, then, to say the least of it, ungentlemanly, and cruel, to impugn his motives. He viewed the charters as every other liberal statesman did before their

eyes were jaundiced by the rancor and fury of party strife.

I now close this article by stating that the charters under consideration were not passed on party grounds, for the vote was unanimous in the Senate, in their favor, and there were only fifteen dissenting in the House of Representatives: Governor Duncan's friends voting for their passage in both Houses, and in the Council of Revision.

I have done for the present—will Mr. Francis publish?

Yours, Respectfully,

JOHN C. BENNETT.

Nauvoo, Ill., June 14, 1842.

#### THE SANGAMO JOURNAL, AND BENNETT.

*Invasion!! Treason!! Ruin!!! Conspiracy!!! Blood!!!! Murder!!!!* is booming through the columns of the Sangamo Journal, like

"The sound of the tempest when navies are stranded;

"Or roar of the whirlwind when forests are landed."

The Mormons have already possessed themselves of this state, and rule it—and they will soon govern the United States. Ye gods have mercy on us, for there are about thirty thousand of them, and the states must submit; no two ways about it; no alternative, we must all be Mormons or perish, unless we slope for Texas. To arms! to arms! we shall be ruined! overthrown! slung out! our cities and nation will be taken away; we shall be greased and swallowed! gaged down at a single gulph, without time to kick; seventeen millions swept off by thirty thousand! 'Tis coming to pass: "one shall chase a thousand and two put ten thousand to flight." O ye frogs of Egypt—the whole country is overrun, and we have only found it out about a week ago!

Up! up! let us beard the lion in his den, and chain the monster in his cage! O! O! O! come! come! come! Missouri help!

Ye brave of Illinois, draw near;—

Ye Anti-Mormons rush the rear.

'Tis true they have not obtained any privilege but what was granted to them by the Legislature, but we are fearful they will; they have not sent a member to the House of Representatives, or to the Senate, but we are afraid they will. They have broken no law; nor violated the constitution of the State, or of the United States, but we fear they will;—and now, ye salt of Sangamo, Illinois, Missouri and elsewhere, let us kill them before they have a chance. Blow the bugle in the wilderness, sound an alarm in the cities, to arms! to arms!

This won't do Mr. Editor, why not come out and tell the truth; you have heretofore stated that "the Mormons were a good and a virtuous people; that the State would be greatly benefited by the rapid increase of so virtuous and intelligent, and enterprising people," now, sir, what has made the change? Have the Mormons become lazy? are they vicious? No! but when you had that "good streak" for the Latter Day Saints, you expected a *quid pro quo* in votes. Do you think the Mormons any worse than they were in 1840, when you could hardly say enough in their praise? no; but the August election is near, and Gov. Duncan is determined to ride into power on the credit of the Mormons—*notens volens*.

Duncan wishes to speculate and make political capital out of the Mormons, and Doctor Bennett is the stock jobber, the singed cat's paw. But glory to the virtue and intelligence of the people, so base and degraded a vagabond cannot escape the merited contempt he deserves. His letters and affidavits, parading along the columns of the Journal, remind one of Bonaparte's campaign to Russia: fragments of the army are seen fleeing in every direction, to escape an 'ocean of flame,' and a Russian winter: poverty, famine, and wretchedness—and so it must be with him. An imposter in masonry; a seducer; a teacher of murder in embryo, and a perjured villain! O wretched man that he is! Who believes him? No body: no; if there be any vain and vile enough to love the *treason*, they despise the *traitor*! 'You cannot catch old birds with chaff,' though you may flare up with all the circumstance and gravity of an honest man, yet it is possible that the *sober* second thought of the people may be efficient enough to teach you 'that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong,' but a wise man will hear both sides and then judge.

On the 18th of last June, your quondam friend Dr. Bennett, who henceforth may be dubbed

the *Knight of Philtres*, and travel as the Don Quixote of the west, brandished his sword at you with great skill,—but Oh! how loving, and how benevolent! you can now give him the right hand of fellowship, murder and treason not excepted; cover his spotted character with the mantle of charity; and lend him a pair of goggles to cover his blood-shot eyes, that he may go to Missouri for repentance! Oh! Mr. Francis! Mr. Francis! blessed is the peace-maker.

#### "TALL OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW."

Doctor Bennett can tell some truth; he says he had Joseph Smith appointed Lieut. Gen. for a play thing, because he did not know the difference between a *Corporal* or a *General*, and so one *ral* was just as good as another for him.

We think the general will show by his obedience, that he is an apt scholar, and will profit from experience in what he has learnt from the nimble practising Doctor.

There is a little old Paul in Joe,—when he was a *child* he acted as a *child*, but now as a *man* he will act as a *man*, and teach the Machiavelian Doctor, that *pets for play things may turn to prophets with power*.

In regard to all these matters, if Bennett alone was concerned we should have considered him altogether beneath our notice, and would have treated his communications with silent contempt; his abominable transactions are too well known in this city for him to obtain any credence whatever; but as there are many political demagogues who have heralded these things forth to the world for political effect in the coming election, we therefore deem it a duty that we owe to ourselves, and to the public, to disabuse the public mind, and state matters of fact as they are in the above disclosures.

If an ordinance had not been passed in this city prohibiting brothels and disorderly houses, and assessing a fine upon the frequenters of such places, perhaps the Doctor and some of his satellites might have considered this to be a paradise yet; and the 'Zion of God,' we noticed that he squirmed very much at its passage, but as he was always so virtuous a man of course it would not do for him to oppose it;—we must confess that we have no fellowship with such unfruitful works of darkness: and it is an opposition to this, and other acts of iniquity, that has brought out their "wonderful disclosures." In regard to all his witnesses, they are all exploded; but one or two of known ill fame; of course their proceedings or testimony are of no amount against us, nor would it be of any use if in our favor.

The Doctor has called upon many, as is fully proven, without authority, as their affidavits, and testimony demonstrate. As he has failed in this, we would respond to the call of Mr. Bennett, and the Sangamo Journal, for all men to come forward and testify to all that they know; we shrink not from investigation into all our acts, public or private, and are prepared to substantiate truths, and to rebut falsehoods. Delicacy has prevented us from publishing much testimony that has come before us, but if necessity requires, of course it must come out.

And in regard to the proceedings of the Sangamo Journal, we know that the editor of that paper looks upon Bennett as a villain; his own publications show this; and he has condescended to act the hypocrite, and make a political cat's-paw of him, in the present crisis. "Oh shame where is thy blush?"

#### For the Wasp. TO THE INDEPENDENT VOTERS OF HANCOCK. FELLOW CITIZENS:—

Our names having been announced in the Wasp, as candidates for the House of Representatives, permit us to say to you gentlemen, that we decline the honor of the nominations so kindly tendered us by some of our democratic friends, always willing to serve the cause of equal rights. The democratic ticket being full, Mr. Owen and Mr. Smith being the candidates for the House of Representatives, they are democrats good and true, in their hands the people's rights will be safe. It is to the Democratic Standard we call on our friends to rally

J. B. BACKENSTOS.

Carthage.

DAVID GREENLIEF.

St. Marys.